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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/028,125

12/21/2001

Paul A. Gough

GB 000190

3193

24737

7590

06/03/2004

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS  
P.O. BOX 3001  
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

TAYLOR, APRIL ALICIA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2876

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/028,125

Applicant(s)

GOUGH ET AL.

Examiner

April A. Taylor

Art Unit

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6 and 19-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 5 and 7-18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed 12 March 2004.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3, 6, and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Remington et al (US 4,495,540), (hereinafter Remington).

Re claims 1, 20, and 21: Remington teaches a luggage, which serves as a pocket as recited in claim 1, comprising a restrictor that is configured to restrict the insertion of objects into, or removal of objects from the luggage, the restrictor being controllable to apply a restricting action on the occurrence of an electronic enabling signal (see figure 1; col. 2, line 3 to col. 3, line 65; col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 27).

Re claim 2: Remington teaches wherein the enabling signal is generated at the command of a user (see col. 2, line 3 to col. 3, line 65; col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 27).

Re claim 3: Remington teaches wherein the enabling signal is generated in response to an output signal status of at least one sensor (see col. 2, line 3 to col. 3, line 65; col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 27).

Re claim 6: Remington teaches wherein the pocket/luggage is provided with a closable access opening communicating with interior pocket/luggage space and the restrictor serves to urge the access opening closed on the occurrence of the enabling signal (see col. 2, line 3 to col. 3, line 65; col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 27).

Re claim 19: Remington teaches wherein the restricting action terminates on cessation of the enabling signal (see col. 2, line 3 to col. 3, line 65; col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 27).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 4, 5, and 7-18 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art to Remington et al teaches a luggage having a restrictor for restricting the insertion of objects into or removal objects from the luggage based on an electronic enabling signal, however the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or fairly suggest a pocket/luggage comprising, among other things, an orientation sensor arranged to produce an output signal dependent on the orientation of the pocket/luggage, the output signal initiating generation of the enabling signal when the pocket/luggage adopts an orientation in which it is possible that object placed in the pocket/luggage will fall out; an accelerometer arranged to produce an output signal dependent on acceleration experienced by the pocket/luggage, the output

signal initiating generation of the enabling signal when the sensor output signal indicates that the pocket/luggage is undergoing jolting movement.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 20, and 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Benore et al (US 5,701,828) discloses an electronic lock system for controlling access to a plurality of enclosures.

Kaarsoo et al (US 5,475,378) discloses an electronic access control mail box system.

Johnson (US 5,153,561) discloses an electronic lock carried on a container.

Conca (GB 2,049,023) discloses an electronic lock for suitcases.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

***Contact Information***

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to April A. Taylor whose telephone number is (571) 272-2403. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 6:30AM - 4:00PM.

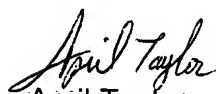
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

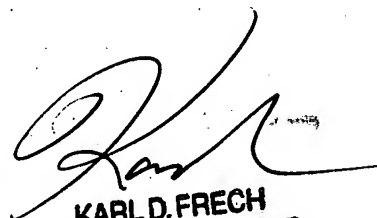
Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [april.taylor@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the

confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
April Taylor  
May 28, 2004

  
KARL D. FRECH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER